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Press Release

Louisiana State Racing Commission debuts new Veterinary Regulations Program: Tom V. David, DVM to serve as Equine Medical Director.

NEW ORLEANS, LA, July 9, 2007: The Louisiana State Racing Commission is proud to announce the hiring of Tom David, DVM as Equine Medical Director. Dr. David comes to the commission with a lifetime of experience in the field, both in private practice and as Association Vet at the Fair Grounds Race Course. He reports to work on July 9.

"The Louisiana Racing Commission is thrilled that Dr. David has agreed to join the team and we look forward to adopting the best practices from across the country as we expand our equine medication and testing program" said Commission Chairman Bob F. Wright.

The new regulations program will add one additional veterinarian at each of the state's four racetracks and is made possible by increased funding from the state's portion of slot machine proceeds generated at Louisiana tracks.

Dr. Tom David will supervise the new and previously existing state veterinary positions. In addition as director he will oversee medical and testing activities at the four horseracing tracks located in New Orleans, Vinton, Bossier City, and Opelousas. "This program will offer Louisiana an opportunity to move forward, to be comparable to other racing jurisdictions," Dr. David explains.

In the past five years the Racing Commission has adopted a more stringent testing regimen of racehorses, including prerace and random testing for banned performance enhancing drugs including human recombinant erythropoitin (EPO) and darbepoietin, as well as testing for total dissolved carbon dioxide, commonly known as "milkshaking." "I'm excited by the development in Louisiana of a program that will incorporate increased security in both pre and post-race drug testing and pre-race examinations to ensure the Louisiana wagering public is protected and that horsemen compete on a level playing field" says Dr. Tom Grimstad, Chariman of the Commission's Medication Committee. "The addition of Dr. David will assist us greatly in moving the new program forward."

"I am excited to be at the center of this new program," said Dr. David. Dr. David's office will be at the Racing Commission headquarters in New Orleans and he will regularly visit racetracks throughout the state.

http://horseracing.la.gov



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